GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:207
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
BILATERAL TRADE TALKS WITH CHINA .
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to enter bilateral trade talks with China;

(b) if so, the areas in which such talks are likely to be held;

(c) whether India is likely to press for the common demands for the benefit of both the countries at the WTO negotiations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)
(a) to (d) The VI Session of the India-China Joint Group on Economic Relations and Trade, Science & Technology (JEG) was held ir Beijing from 21st to 22nd February, 2000. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Murasoli Maran, Minister of Commerce and Industry and the Chinese side by Mr. Shi Guangsheng, Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic CooperationBoth sides held bilateral discussions covering a wide range of issues relating to trade, investment and economic cooperation. The two Ministers also signed a Bilateral Agreement in the context of China`s accession to the World Trade Organisations (WTO).
China is yet to become a member of the WTO.However, China has observer status in WTO.Both India and China have broadly similar views on issues like the need to keep non-trade issues out of the agenda of WTO. Therefore, there is scope for cooperation between the two countries as and when China becomes a member of WTO.